

SENATE BILL 1000

By Haynes

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 2, Part 1; Title 2, Chapter 3, Part 1; Title 2, Chapter 4, Part 1; Title 2, Chapter 5, Part 2; Title 2, Chapter 6; Title 2, Chapter 7, Part 1 and Title 2, Chapter 8, Part 1, relative to voting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-106(c), is amended by deleting the last sentence of the subsection in its entirety.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-109, is amended by adding the following language as subsection (b) and re-designating the current language in subsection (b) as subsection (c):

(b) When the thirtieth (30th) day before an election falls on a Sunday, applications for registration shall be accepted and processed through the twenty-ninth (29th) day before the election. This shall extend the deadline for applications for registration completed at the county election commission office as well as the deadline for having a by-mail registration form postmarked.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-115(b)(7), is amended by adding the following language to the end of the last sentence after the word "register" and before the punctuation ".":

or a full-time student who has registered by mail and can provide a copy of their student identification along with some form of documentation from the university stating that they are actively enrolled in the accredited college, university or similar accredited institution of learning outside the county where the voter is registered during all of early voting and on election day

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-124(d) is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-124(a) is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(a) After determining that the registrant is entitled to register, the administrator shall give to each voter, who provides identification when registering in person and is registered permanently, a registration card which shall certify that the voter is registered. The voter shall sign the card in the presence of the administrator except for mail registrants, transferors or persons who do not provide identification when registering in person. After determining that the registrant is entitled to register, the administrator shall mail to each voter, who does not provide identification when registering in person and is registered permanently, a registration card which shall certify that the voter is registered.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-129(a)(1), is amended by deleting the words “in person or by mail” and by substituting instead the language “in person, by mail or by e-mail with an attached document which includes a scanned signature”.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-130 is amended by deleting the first sentence in its entirety and by substituting instead the language:

The administrator of elections, after transferring a registration, shall immediately give the voter a new registration card if the voter provided identification, or mail the voter a new registration card if no identification was provided by the voter unless the transfer is accomplished through the provisions of § 2-7-140.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-131(a), is amended by deleting the second sentence of the subsection in its entirety.

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-3-103, is amended by deleting the words “five thousand (5,000) registered voters” and by substituting instead the language “seven thousand five hundred (7,500) registered voters”.

SECTION 10: Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-4-108(b), is amended by deleting the words “the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00)” and by substituting instead the language “the sum of twenty dollars (\$20.00)”.

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-202, is amended by designating the current language as subsection (a) and by adding the following language as a new subsection thereto:

(b) Whenever a municipal election is being held in conjunction with a regular general election, the election commission may have printed separate municipal and general election ballots on which shall be only the names of candidates who have qualified and who are to be voted on at the polling place in which the ballots are to be used.

SECTION 12: Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-103(b)(1), is amended by deleting the words “eight o’clock p.m. (8:00 p.m.)” and substituting instead the language “eight o’clock p.m. (8:00 p.m.) in the eastern time zone and seven o’clock p.m. (7:00 p.m.) in the central time zone”.

SECTION 13. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-202(a)(1), is amended by deleting the words “seven (7) days” and by substituting instead the language “nine (9) days”.

SECTION 14. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-202(a)(3), is amended by deleting the second sentence in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

A voter may make the request or submit an application to vote by mail, facsimile transmission or email with an attached document which includes a scanned signature.

SECTION 15: Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-202(d)(3), is amended by deleting the words “the fifth day before an election” and by substituting instead the language “the seventh day before an election”.

SECTION 16. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-502(c), is amended by deleting the words “not later than five (5) days” and by substituting instead the language “not later than seven (7) days”.

SECTION 17. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-133(i), is amended by adding the following sentence after the second sentence in the subsection:

Candidates for offices described in § 2-5-103 shall file the candidate’s write-in notice with the state coordinator of elections.

SECTION 18. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-8-107(b), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(b) In computerized counties, the commission shall forward to the secretary of state electronically through the AES computer system a list of the names of all voters who participated in the election, verified as to its accuracy, on or before forty-five (45) days after the election, to be stored by the secretary of state for nine (9) years, and shall deposit the list in the office of the county clerk, either printed or in a CD ROM format, to be stored by such clerk for six (6) years. The commission shall also forward to the secretary of state the list in a CD ROM format in the time prescribed by law.

SECTION 19. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.